

20030930.qrp v03_n059.qrl.20030930

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 19:03:08 EDT
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 3059

QRP-L Digest 3059

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [158518] FOX:Second Call for Volunteers
by "Doc K0EVZ" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
- 2) [158519] Re: What is QRP
by Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 3) [158520] RE: Adjustable baluns?
by "N4LGH" <n4lgh@waveguide.us>
- 4) [158521] Re: MQFD Rules was: no "Rules" posted
by <ah7i@atl.org>
- 5) [158522] W.A.S.
by "Brent Sutphin WB4X" <bsutphin@triad.rr.com>
- 6) [158523] Re: Adjustable baluns?
by Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
- 7) [158524] RE: Adjustable baluns?
by "N4LGH" <n4lgh@waveguide.us>
- 8) [158525] Re: MQFD Rules was: no "Rules" posted
by "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
- 9) [158526] RE: Adjustable baluns?
by "N4LGH" <n4lgh@waveguide.us>
- 10) [158527] Re: [fpqrp] State of the WAP
by "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
- 11) [158528] Radio during a sunspot minimum
by Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
- 12) [158529] Re: MQFD Rules was: no "Rules" posted
by <ah7i@atl.org>
- 13) [158530] Sierra module
by Michael Goins <mgoins@usa.net>
- 14) [158531] NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
- 15) [158532] Coast to Coast certificates
by "Paul Beringer" <fistsc2c@yahoo.com>
- 16) [158533] C2C certificates
by "Paul Beringer" <fistsc2c@yahoo.com>
- 17) [158534] SS Practice Audio for QRPers
by Chuck Adams <k7qo@commspeed.net>
- 18) [158535] Re: Radio during a sunspot minimum
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 19) [158536] FISTS Question

- by "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@verizon.net>
- 20) [158537] Michigan QRP Net tonight
by kwise@gdls.com
- 21) [158538] Rock-Mite on 80 Meters
by Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
- 22) [158539] Ooops Michigan QRP Net tonight That's Tuesdays not Thursdays
by kwise@gdls.com
- 23) [158540] NEQRP SSB NET TONITE 07:30PM EDST 7.288Mhz +- 5Khz
by "Ron Pfeiffer" <n1zsw@hotmail.com>
- 24) [158541] Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller
by Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
- 25) [158542] Re: Radio during a sunspot minimum
by Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
- 26) [158543] Western Washington QRP operators ONLY
by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
- 27) [158544] Iowa QRP Club CW Net
by mark.milburn@juno.com
- 28) [158545] QRP Nets
by mark.milburn@juno.com
- 29) [158546] Re: Radio during a sunspot minimum
by Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
- 30) [158547] Re: FISTS Question
by William R Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
- 31) [158548] Re: Radio during a sunspot minimum
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 32) [158549] Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller
by "Trevor Jacobs" <kg6cyn@softhome.net>
- 33) [158550] Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller
by "Charles W3KC" <w3kc@starpower.net>
- 34) [158551] Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
by "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
- 35) [158552] WTB -- FT-817
by Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
- 36) [158553] Re: FISTS Question
by "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>
- 37) [158554] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
by "Deni" <deni1@tiscali.fr>
- 38) [158555] Re: SS Practice Audio for QRPers
by Garie Halstead K8KFJ <khyberpass65@yahoo.com>
- 39) [158556] Wanted Urgently MFJ 1025/1026
by "Deni" <deni1@tiscali.fr>
- 40) [158557] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
by "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
- 41) [158558] FISTS & QRP
by "David Baird" <wa9pds@cooketech.net>
- 42) [158559] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 43) [158560] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum

- by "Deni" <deni1@tiscali.fr>
- 44) [158561] SS Program Update
by Chuck Adams <k7qo@commspeed.net>
- 45) [158562] Fw: Traveling Phasors
by "James P. Osburn, P.E." <j.p.osburn@ieee.org>
- 46) [158563] Re: FISTS Question
by Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
- 47) [158564] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
by Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
- 48) [158565] RE: FISTS Question
by "Mike D." <hrg@cifnet.com>
- 49) [158566] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
by "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
- 50) [158567] Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller
by Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
- 51) [158568] EMRFD and Microwave Update 2003
by "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
- 52) [158569] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
by Peter Burbank <peterlee@qx.net>
- 53) [158570] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
by w9ya <w9ya@arrl.net>
- 54) [158571] Fw: FISTS & QRP
by "Niels Kristjansson" <nkristja@telus.net>
- 55) [158572] RE: EMRFD and Microwave Update 2003
by "Lyle Johnson" <wa7gxd@fidalgo.net>
- 56) [158573] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 17:28:19 -0500
From: "Doc K0EVZ" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
To: "qrp-l reflector" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: "doc k0evz earthlink" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
Subject: [158518] FOX:Second Call for Volunteers
Message-ID: <4120039129222819855@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Gang:

This is our second call for FOXes for the Winter 2003-2004 season. We need a total of 20 active FOXes and 3 substitutes. If you would like to apply, please complete the form below and return it to me ASAP.

A number of forms have already been returned, but there is still room for more to apply. Please get back to me ASAP. Thanks!

----- S N I P -----

Name_____

Nickname_____

Call sign_____

Evening home phone_____

Work phone_____

E-Mail Address_____

S-Mail Address_____

Time Zone_____

Previous FOX experience_____

Your station setup, including
antennas_____

Why do you want to serve as a FOX?

What are known "blackout" dates for
you (= dates you cannot serve)_____

----- S N I P -----

Please return the above information
to me ASAP. Thanks.

Please remember that we will likely
have more volunteers than spaces.

73,

--Doc/K0EVZ for the FOX Committee

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 18:20:46 -0400
From: Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [158519] Re: What is QRP
Message-ID: <20030929.183612.9206.9.kc8aon@juno.com>

I we don't discuss BPL, there won't be a need for QRP-L ! Nuf Said !

72/73 de: Rick McKee, KC8AON <> Willow Wood, Ohio <> Grid: EM88rl
SW 40+, SW-20+, Norcal BLT, Norcal Cascade, Yaesu FT-7,
Homebrew 6V6 tube TX & Hallicrafters SW500 RX
QRP-L #2112, FPqrp #33, AR QRP, AmQRP, Ohio Valley Fists
I'll give up CW when I'm dead ! MAYBE !

The best thing to hit the internet in years - Juno SpeedBand!
Surf the web up to FIVE TIMES FASTER!
Only \$14.95/ month - visit www.juno.com to sign up today!

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 15:47:05 -0700
From: "N4LGH" <n4lgh@waveguide.us>
To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158520] RE: Adjustable baluns?
Message-ID: <000501c386db\$9bdb34a0\$6701a8c0@cfl.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Take a look at the Multimatch Unun by Sevick.

Pretty neat setup and quite a handy piece of test equipment. I've put them into enclosures with coaxial relays to make a remote matching

network.

Sevick has a chapter in his book about multimath baluns and ununs. I've not read the material, but I've used the units with good results.

YMMV

Tracy N4LGH

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 18:26:07 -0400 (EDT)
From: <ah7i@atl.org>
To: john_k7fd <john_k7fd@cablespeed.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158521] Re: MQFD Rules was: no "Rules" posted
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0309291819220.974-1000000@localhost.localdomain>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

could be still, 'losing mind'
once again, we'll see wayne and qrp fade
away with the sunspots...

don't get me wrong, i like qrp, and wayne's ok too.
but, i've been on the air since '68 and folks get
very frustrated with qrp whe things arew so bad
that it takes a KW and big antenna on 20, 10 is more
like 6, and 40 m is jammed with every ham who can't get up
an antnna for 160 or 80 or put out the power on 20.

maybe 10 will be good for qrp...

-bob

On Sun, 28 Sep 2003, john_k7fd wrote:

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
>

> > MQFD was proposed by the MQFD Kahuna.
>
>
> The BIG Kahuna as in Wayne Green? I see he proposed a monthly QRP FD on the
> last Saturday of each month...Sept 2003 issue, page 59. I was surprised when
> I still saw his magazine on the rack!! Even more surprised to find him
> promoting QRP!! And I thought he was losing his mind!
>
> 73 John K7FD
>

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 20:03:35 -0400
From: "Brent Sutphin WB4X" <bsutphin@triad.rr.com>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158522] W.A.S.
Message-ID: <006e01c386e6\$4b0366a0\$9e6d1f18@BandE>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I need the following states to finish up my WAS QRP. I need IA, NE, VT and WY. If you are in one of these states and interested in making a schedule please contact me.

73,
Brent WB4X

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 18:21:18 -0600 (MDT)
From: Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
To: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158523] Re: Adjustable baluns?
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0309291813350.4678-1000000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Mon, 29 Sep 2003 ARDUJENSKI@aol.com wrote:

> When looking at field use of multiband antennas the impedance values can vary

> generally from 40 thru 2800 ohms. It would appear that using a fixed 6-to-1
> or 4-to-1 standard balun introduces losses on some bands.

The function of a balun is to match a unbalanced line to a balanced line. Period. An example of unbalanced is coax line and balanced is 450 ohm ladder line or 300 ohm TV ribbon.

There are technical reasons why you always want to use a 1:1 balun because it remains balanced over wide impedance values. That said the MFJ antenna tuners all use a 4:1 balun because it's configuration is good for the MFJ box.

So build a good toriod balun and get on with it. They work just fine.

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 17:31:53 -0700
From: "N4LGH" <n4lgh@waveguide.us>
To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158524] RE: Adjustable baluns?
Message-ID: <0000001c386ea\$3fa73da0\$6701a8c0@cfl.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Multimath ... geez ... Freudian!
Tracy N4LGH

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf
Of N4LGH
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2003 3:47 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: RE: Adjustable baluns?

Take a look at the Multimatch Unun by Sevvick.

Pretty neat setup and quite a handy piece of test equipment. I've put them into enclosures with coaxial relays to make a remote matching network.

Sevick has a chapter in his book about multimath baluns and ununs. I've not read the material, but I've used the units with good results.

YMMV

Tracy N4LGH

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 20:38:43 -0400
From: "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158525] Re: MQFD Rules was: no "Rules" posted
Message-ID: <3F789853.28571.E20C66@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

>
> don't get me wrong, i like qrp, and wayne's ok too.
> but, i've been on the air since '68 and folks get
> very frustrated with qrp whe things arew so bad
> that it takes a KW and big antenna on 20, 10 is more
> like 6, and 40 m is jammed with every ham who can't get up
> an antnna for 160 or 80 or put out the power on 20.
> maybe 10 will be good for qrp...

There are many on this list who have been through at least one sunspot minima, and had a great deal of fun with QRP during it. A look at past editions of QRP Quarterly will show that there is fun still to be had. It may require more patience, indeed, even skill, to work the elusive DX with QRP, but it can and will be done by those who persevere.... Notwithstanding BPL, loss of CW sub-bands, etc..

John W2AGN

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 17:40:31 -0700
From: "N4LGH" <n4lgh@waveguide.us>
To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158526] RE: Adjustable baluns?
Message-ID: <000101c386eb\$74588260\$6701a8c0@cfl.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

<snip>

There are technical reasons why you always want to use a 1:1
balun because it remains balanced over wide impedance values.
</snip>

Nope!

In most baluns on the market, they are designed for specific input and
output impedances - as you deviate from those impedances you experience
loss and imbalance.

Forget the word 'BALUN' for a second and think of it as a 'broadband
matching network of transmission lines.'

What you gain is a great range of frequency, not impedance.

It is possible to wind multiple transformers on the same core and
connect them with logic and ohms law. Along with some relays, one can
have a fairly versatile transformer!

Tracy N4LGH

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 20:03:09 -0500
From: "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>, "Pigs" <multipigplus@yahooogroups.com>,
 "FPigs" <fpqrp-1@mpna.com>
Subject: [158527] Re: [fpqrp] State of the WAP
Message-ID: <003001c386ee\$9e11a200\$0077da0c@mchsi.com>

Owe: I can't help myself !! I must seize the moment !!

We now have 3 months of what should be awesome propagation left in 2003.

With 46 of the nearly 700 members turning in logs for the 2003 WAP (Worked All Pigs) there is room and a lot of time for many more of you to join us in this activity.

Some super prizes are at stake.

If your not driven to win a new rig, then maybe your forte is to get on and ragchew. Maybe you like to work contests. Maybe you like to just get on and say howdy to other club members. Maybe, you don't like getting on at all but have thought about getting active on the air again.

We not have MQFD (thank you Rick) to help you get your portable gear out and get it set up.

We have a Wednesday night and a Sunday night net at 01:00z on 7.044. (thanks Joel and Mikey)

We have the Truffle hunts coming soon to a theater near you. (thanks Diz)

We have at least two more " Run For the Bacon " sprints coming up before the end of the year.

And we have " ME " driving everyone nuts in an attempt to get some of you active. The object of which is to represent the club with it's members making noise on the bands.

Slap me around if I'm wrong but I don't know of another club that provides this amount of activity (FUN) to it's membership.

I would love to see a great many more of you getting involved in these activities cuz it makes that much more fun for everyone.

So, consider this my invitation to all the piggie members (and everyone else) to get on the bands and make some noise.

Whatever your choice of modes, the more noise you make, the more folks you will get to join in your fun.

I can't think of a better way to protect our peace of the pie.

72 / 73 to all

A big ole Oink Oink to all piggies.

Have a great evening / week / life Jerry N0JRN

----- Original Message -----

From: "Hare,Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>

> I, too, am negligent in not getting my Piggie number on the air, except for once for a guy who asked. Maybe tomorrow on 20 M at

lunchtime! :-)

-----Original Message-----

> > From: Paul Womble [mailto:pwomble@verizon.net]
> > Hmmm...I have not checked the WAP summary lately. Still no
antenna up here in the apartment. I see I'm going to have to make an
effort to get on the air. Currently there is only 1 QSO separating
Mac and I from "Something special from
> > N8IE" as the 4th place prize. Oh joy.

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 19:31:25 -0600 (MDT)
From: Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158528] Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0309291919350.4678-100000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Last week the sun was screwing up everything and the bands were
dead. But I had a sched with wf5a/m in Virginia on 21.21 MHz at 2:30 pm
New Mexico time. Every day we talked with good 5-7 to 5-9 signal
reports. Who would have guessed it?

Just now I sent in my bid to be a winter Fox this year. I know
that it's going to be more difficult to hear guys, but I plan to do my
very best. And I plan to try again to work Europe on 40 meter cw with my
killer dipole during the CQ WW DX contest running a full gallon, at
5.000 watts.

Don't think you have to run 100 watts now. You just have to wait
longer for good conditions. And while waiting you can listen around.
Your receiver is as good, and most times better than those guys using
QRO power.

There is no law saying you can't build a better antenna for QRP.

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces, NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 22:07:26 -0400 (EDT)
From: <ah7i@atl.org>
To: <ah7i@atl.org>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158529] Re: MQFD Rules was: no "Rules" posted
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0309292206270.2861-100000@localhost.localdomain>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Mon, 29 Sep 2003 ah7i@atl.org wrote:

>

> maybe 10 will be good for qrp...

>

That's meant to say 10MHz (30M band)

Seemed to be useable prior to this cycle getting hot.

-Bob

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 22:15:34 -0500
From: Michael Goins <mgoins@usa.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [158530] Sierra module
Message-ID: <455HidDPI6544S17.1064891734@uwdvg017.cms.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Anyone have a 30 meter module for a Sierra gathering dust? Need one, built or unbuilt. Thanks.

mike
k5wmg

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 22:23:40 -0700
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158531] NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller
Message-ID: <018901c38713\$021a9210\$0400000a@wa5bdu>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Did some updating of my DOS based controller for the NJQRP and Trevor Jacobs synthesizers.

You can find/download the program and doc file at

<<http://www.cox-internet.com/wa5bdu/>>

and scroll down to the ham radio stuff and discussion of the thing.

I added a selector to switch from the 100 MHz clock of NJQRP to the 125 MHz clock Trevor used. Also added a calibrate routine. Lets you adjust the software to use the *real* frequency of your timebase if it's off a bit from 100 MHz or 125 MHz, by zero beating a standard or using an accurate counter.

Fixed the manual (keyboard) frequency entry command and also the band scan routine. Smoothed out some more features and enhanced the help screens. Still have some work to do, but this version has a lot of improvements.

Probably won't run in a DOS box in most versions of Windows, except those that let you go "full screen" mode. Windows doesn't approve of assembly language programs going directly to the hardware (ports).

All yours for the low, low price of \$0.00, or four easy payments of \$0.00 per month. Slightly higher in California and West coast. Void where prohibited.

72--Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 21:01:58 -0700
From: "Paul Beringer" <fistsc2c@yahoo.com>
To: "FISTS reflector" <fists@mailman.qth.net>,
"CQ contest list" <cq-contest@contesting.com>,
Subject: [158532] Coast to Coast certificates
Message-ID: <0KEEKIBJJ0AMBPELHNDBGEONCEAA.fistsc2c@yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

To all C2C participants,

Robin Faulkner, the genius who designed the Coast to Coast certificates has indicated that he wants to have a cutoff date for certificate ordering. He agreed to make that date the same as the score submission date for logs which is October 15th. If you haven't ordered your certificate yet, please consider it. These are the most awesome certificates I've ever seen. Done on real cloth fabric with sharp printing. And only 7 bucks a pop. They'll be an eyecatcher in your shack. I got my certificate and I can assure you, it won't be collecting dust in some file folder. It worth a frame of its own.

So far, I have 65 scores submitted. So I know there are more of you out there who have yet to send me your score. K7FFF alone had over 140 contacts with fists members and non members alike. The same is true for the other clubs who participated. Please take a moment to go over your C2C contacts and send me your score. Scoring rules are located at the C2C web site at http://tomochka.com/k7fff/fnw_c2c03.html . If you are unsure how to score your logs, I'll be happy to get e-mail or snail mail logs and score them for you.

73

Paul NG7Z

C2C chairman

Outgoing mail is certified Virus Free.

Checked by AVG anti-virus system (<http://www.grisoft.com>).

Version: 6.0.521 / Virus Database: 319 - Release Date: 9/23/2003

Date: Mon, 29 Sep 2003 21:16:13 -0700

From: "Paul Beringer" <fistsc2c@yahoo.com>

To: "Qrp-L reflector" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>,
"CQ contest list" <cq-contest@contesting.com>,

Subject: [158533] C2C certificates

Message-ID: <OKEEKIBJJ0AMBPELHNDBOE00CEAA.fistsc2c@yahoo.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I forgot to include the URLs to the C2C website

http://www.tomochka.com/k7fff/fnw_c2c03.html - Rules and points info

http://www.tomochka.com/k7fff/fnw_c2c03.html#awards - Awards images

http://www.tomochka.com/k7fff/fnw_c2c03_certinfo.html - How to order.

Outgoing mail is certified Virus Free.

Checked by AVG anti-virus system (<http://www.grisoft.com>).
Version: 6.0.521 / Virus Database: 319 - Release Date: 9/23/2003

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 10:29:26 +0100
From: Chuck Adams <k7qo@commspeed.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu, qrplinux-1@lists.lehigh.edu
Subject: [158534] SS Practice Audio for QRPers
Message-ID: <5.2.1.1.0.20030930100436.01a65c40@mail.commspeed.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Gang,

Go to my home page.

<http://www.qsl.net/k7qo/>

and go down the page to the section setup for generating an audio MP3 disc for the November ARRL SS CW contest. Download the files by right clicking and doing a save link as.... for each link.

Then under LINUX follow the commands as I show you on the page.
I did not generate a script file, sorry.

You can create an MP3 disc per the instructions or there are several LINUX commands that will allow you to play the .mp3 files through your sound card, but I find that some CPUs will cause annoying pauses in the sequence of sound characters.

I recommend you use your logging software for practice. And because you have the source files you can check for errors in your log on your own. Saves me a lot of time.

If the practice is too fast, each line of the source files before each exchange is

*tone speed farnsworth amplitude

where,

tone is frequency of the CW tone

speed is the code speed in WPM

farnsworth is the spacing and for these files the farnsworth = speed

amplitude is value between 1.0 and 0.0 and I recommend you don't go above 0.9. Obviously 0.0 is very quiet..... :-) You can edit the files to slow them down, but for a realistic contest you need to work at these speeds..... No pain. No gain.

With the 31 data files you get 3100 Qs (contacts) in about 5 to 6 hours total. This just shows you how much idle time you will have in a 24 hour contest.

And with this practice you can see why vanity calls save you a lot of time during a contest. Good calls avoid E, I, S, and H and any last character in the call that ends in a dit. You will get asked for repeats on your call if you don't have this by inexperienced contestors and may even a few experts if the QRM is bad.

OK. Practice until you drop. See you in the contest.

dit dit

Oh, if you think a contest group is interested, point them in the right direction.

You want to drive yourself crazy? In the middle of each file put a single line with

*0 0 0 0.0

(zeros) before a line with *tone speed....

What will happen is you will generate two exchanges going at the same time, one in each ear in stereo. Good practice for listening to two stations at once. :-)

Just in case you generate pileups.

I am looking for a contest location in NWT this year. Haven't heard back from the Pres of the Whitehorse club.

Chuck Adams K7Q0 k7qo@commspeed.net
<http://www.qsl.net/k7qo> CP-60

Moving to Arizona? Please bring your own water.

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 07:00:27 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: k5di@zianet.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [158535] Re: Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <3F79624B.8F20BA39@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Karl,

> Don't think you have to run 100 watts now. You just have to wait
> longer for good conditions. And while waiting you can listen around.
> Your receiver is as good, and most times better than those guys using
> QRO power.

>
You are absolutely correct, patience is the secret to working DX at low power. Low sunspot conditions are just more QRP, sort of QRPP!
Patience will be required along with a willingness to use lower frequencies. Look for better conditions on 20 through 159, and forget about 17 though 10 except for occasional openings.

However, I would beg to differ about QRPers having better receivers than QRO guys. At a very least the QRO guys are using the same receiver and in some cases use better ones. QRO will always get a slightly better signal report, and probably make more contacts faster. But that is no reason to pack up QRP and run for the hills.

73

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 07:14:11 -0400
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@verizon.net>
To: ".QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158536] FISTS Question
Message-ID: <000d01c38743\$fa1318e0\$0200a8c0@WB3AAL>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello,

Please e-mail me direct and not to the list too keep the traffic down.

Wondering what percentage of QRP'ers are FISTS members?

72 and Thanks,
Ron Polityka
WB3AAL
www.n3epa.org/

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 07:14:20 -0400
From: kwiike@gdls.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [158537] Michigan QRP Net tonight
Message-ID: <0FB7213239.E502AFE7-ON85256DB1.003DAB4C@gdls.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

A great turn out last week. Eleven check-ins from six states. 80 Meters is really starting to come into its own with the cool WX. So load up that wire on 80 and join the fun.

	S	R	
AA1MY	579	579	ME SEAB
K8CV	599	599	ROYAL OAK MI WALT
W8IQB	579	579	BRISTOL MI LOWELL
WA8REI	599	599	FREELAND MI KEN
WA8BXN	599	599	CLEVELAND OH MIKE
W0ANM	559	579	EDEN PRAIRIE MN CHRIS
KA8ONW	559	599	MASON WI MARK
K9IS	579	569	WHITE LAKE WI STEVE
KB8BO	599	599	WEST BLOOMFIELD MI JOE
N1CUU	569	599	GETTYSBURG PA CARL
KI8DU	579	579	HUNINGTON WV ROGER

The Michigan QRP Net meets each Thursday night at 9:00 PM Eastern time on 3.535 MHz. All hams are welcome.

Ed AB8DF Waterford, MI

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 06:27:05 -0500
From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [158538] Rock-Mite on 80 Meters

Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20030930062705.0082d630@mail.9plus.net>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Rock-Miters, [This is a resend of my message from last December.]

Modifications of an R-M/40 for 80 meters are included below. Reminder that this is an empirical revision of a sample of 1 and your milage may vary (YMMV).

All caps are Mouser series 581-SR151AxxxJ np0, Chokes are Mouser series 434-22-xxx. (xxx = value)

2n2222A power out 650 mW (gets hot quickly -- need heatsink). With a serious heatsink and 5.1 Ohm R18, about 1 Watt. With 2n2219 or 2n3053 power output ranged from 700 mW to 1.2 Watts with 10 Ohm, 5.1 Ohm and 3 Ohms at R18 (heat sinks for Q6 recommended).

D5 - Left out (shift was minimal)

C10/11 - 220 pF

C12 - 100 pF

L1 - 22 uH choke

L2/3 - 2.2 uH chokes

C15/17 - 560 pF

C16 - 1200 pF

Filter values were selected from the Handbook SVC table using filter #68. The choke value of 2.2 uH was the closest standard value available.

Crystals used are color burst frequency and obtained from Doug at NorCal.

[Appended note:]

The color burst frequency can be very busy with other operating modes too.

Dave also suggested the 3686 kHz crystals. And N4ESS has cylindrical crystals at 3560 kHz. I've tried both and they work fine. The N4ESS crystals give about 2/3rds the power output in this circuit.

I made two contacts with the R-M/80 before the noise got my ears. But it did work!

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1

QRP-ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, QRPP-I #115, ARS #1280, SOC #57

Zombie #759, COG #11, 6 Club #201, FP #601 oo <http://www.netxqrp.org>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 08:48:09 -0400
From: kwike@gdls.com
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158539] Ooops Michigan QRP Net tonight That's Tuesdays not Thursdays
Message-ID: <0F418B258D.09AF230E-0N85256DB1.004626B0@gdls.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

A great turn out last week. Eleven check-ins from six states. 80 Meters is really starting to come into its own with the cool WX. So load up that wire on 80 and join the fun.

	S	R	
AA1MY	579	579	ME SEAB
K8CV	599	599	ROYAL OAK MI WALT
W8IQB	579	579	BRISTOL MI LOWELL
WA8REI	599	599	FREELAND MI KEN
WA8BXN	599	599	CLEVELAND OH MIKE
W0ANM	559	579	EDEN PRAIRIE MN CHRIS
KA8ONW	559	599	MASON WI MARK
K9IS	579	569	WHITE LAKE WI STEVE
KB8BO	599	599	WEST BLOOMFIELD MI JOE
N1CUU	569	599	GETTYSBURG PA CARL
KI8DU	579	579	HUNINGTON WV ROGER

The Michigan QRP Net meets each Tuesday night at 9:00 PM Eastern time on 3.535 MHz. All hams are welcome.

Ed AB8DF Waterford, MI

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 08:58:25 -0400
From: "Ron Pfeiffer" <n1zsw@hotmail.com>
To: neqrp@jonal.net, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [158540] NEQRP SSB NET TONITE 07:30PM EDST 7.288Mhz +- 5Khz
Message-ID: <Law9-F108Flmm1Q080G00003b97@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Tuesday: 07:30 PM EDST
7.288 Mhz plus/minus 5 Khz

Last weeks Check ins:

NONE because I fogot!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Found what was wrong with my ICOM 703. I did a master reset to get as many variable'

back to factory defaults and forgot to adjust mic gain? DAH

Come out with your microphone and say hello!

Have fun, Ron

Share your photos without swamping your Inbox. Get Hotmail Extra Storage today! <http://join.msn.com/?PAGE=features/es>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 09:03:45 -0400
From: Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
To: nkennedy@tcainternet.com,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158541] Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller
Message-ID: <04e801c38753\$4b82bb40\$3b6d020a@boomer>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Nick -
Is that higher price because of environmental concerns?
73 de Lee
KM4YY/8

SNI P-----
> All yours for the low, low price of \$0.00, or four easy payments of \$0.00
> per month. Slightly higher in California and West coast. Void where
> prohibited.
>
> 72--Nick, WA5BDU
>
>
>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 09:17:24 -0400
From: Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
To: w6toy@erols.com,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158542] Re: Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <053301c38755\$34079d30\$3b6d020a@boomer>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I don't know about that Bruce. My 2N2-40 receiver is actually quieter than my IC-781!
73 de Lee
KM4YY/8

SNIP----->
> However, I would beg to differ about QRPers having better receivers than
> QRO guys. At a very least the QRO guys are using the same receiver and
> in some cases use better ones.

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 10:10:57 EDT
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158543] Western Washington QRP operators ONLY
Message-ID: <51.352ab65c.2caae8f1@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

There is no consolidating QRP Club in Western Washington but rather pockets of isolated groups and individuals. I am planning on setting up an event where the fellow QRPers can gather and get to meet others with the same interest. We have been doing this on a limited basis thru a Coffee and Pie gathering about twice a month in Bothell, WA.

So far in checking out participants in sprints and events I have identified about 25 hams. I figure there must be about 3-4 times that number that don't submit logs on contests

This is not an effort to form any club but rather hoping to provide an

opportunity to maybe spark some local gatherings and spark some group activities.

Please email me if you are interested in getting on a onetime use mailing list for this event and feel free to pass along this note to those that may not be on QRP-L.

Thanks for the bandwidth

Alan KB7MBI in Woodinville, WA
FISTS 5702 / ARS / Proud member of ARRL
--- --- --- --- DIT DIT

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 10:15:35 -0500
From: mark.milburn@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158544] Iowa QRP Club CW Net
Message-ID: <20030930.101749.-1451697.1.MARK.MILBURN@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The Iowa QRP Club CW Net will be held on or around 3.709 Wednesday night at 8 PM Iowa time, or Thursday morning 0100Z.

Note that this is a change in frequency.

Join us if you can.

72 Mark KQ0I
Des Moines, Iowa

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 10:17:48 -0500
From: mark.milburn@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158545] QRP Nets
Message-ID: <20030930.101749.-1451697.2.MARK.MILBURN@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I want to update our Iowa QRP Club web page for net times and frequencies. Please let me know the name of your organization, the frequency, the days and the times and I will include them on our web page

listing.

If you want a compilation when I get done, let me know.

Thanks.

Mark KQ0I
Des Moines, Iowa
Instant Messenger: markkq0i Packet: KQ0I@KQ0I.#CIA.IA.USA.NOAM

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 09:29:09 -0600 (MDT)
From: Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158546] Re: Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0309300923450.4678-1000000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 30 Sep 2003, Bruce Muscolino wrote:

> Karl,
> > Don't think you have to run 100 watts now. You just have to wait
> > longer for good conditions. And while waiting you can listen around.
> You are absolutely correct, patience is the secret to working DX at low
> power. Low sunspot conditions are just more QRP, sort of QRPP!
> Patience will be required along with a willingness to use lower
> frequencies. Look for better conditions on 20 through 159, and forget
> about 17 though 10 except for occasional openings.
>
> However, I would beg to differ about QRPers having better receivers than

Hi Bruce, I think I can stand up that rigs like the Icom 706xyz
and the Kenwood TS-50 have receivers very inferior to the K-1, K-2 and
even the FT-817. The DX QRO guys do have the upscale Icom's that really
only have better receivers than the 706.

The FT-817 with a cw filter and the AGC turned off and the audio
turned up high and you driving the rf gain control is a really good
receiver.

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 09:51:41 -0600
From: William R Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
To: wb3aal@verizon.net, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158547] Re: FISTS Question
Message-ID: <20030930.095142.-826365.1.w5xe@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Don't know if this counts but I used to be
until they (the management) decided to put
their calling/working frequencies right up on
the qrp calling/working freqs on all bands
except 40 meters. And the FISTS I have
run into tend not to acknowledge qrp
operations at all. I consider them a
nothing organization.

Ray

"Politicians are like nappies. Both should be
changed regularly -- and for the same reason"

"Scotsman - Scotsman's Diary 12/97"

Ray Colbert, W5XE, 00TC#3618, SOWP#1064M SOC#78
fp #111 ARCI-5784 NCT2R El Paso, (FAR WEST) TEXAS

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 13:24:35 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: lmairs@direcway.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [158548] Re: Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <3F79BC53.3AC009BD@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Lee,

>

> I don't know about that Bruce. My 2N2-40 receiver is actually quieter than
> my IC-781!

>

Yes, I'm sure it is, but then does it have all the bells and whistles that the Icom has? Is it in a vice case? Does it have the digital display so you know exactly what frequency your operating on? Does it have switchable filters so you can easily listen to SSB

The point I'm making here is that while the 2N2-40 is a very good receiver, it is limited. If you only want to work 40 CW, it does a great job. If, however, you want to do more, the Icom will win hands diown!

73

>

> SNIP----->

> > However, I would beg to differ about QRPers having better receivers than
> > QRO guys. At a very least the QRO guys are using the same receiver and
> > in some cases use better ones.

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 10:40:12 -0700

From: "Trevor Jacobs" <kg6cyn@softhome.net>

To: lmairs@direcway.com,

"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [158549] Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller

Message-ID: <003701c38779\$e8bb2fc0\$0f0b280a@etclink.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

No Lee, it's because of energy prices being so high out here making it cost more to download ;-)

73's Trev KG6CYN

<http://www.qsl.net/kg6cyn>

----- Original Message -----

From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@direcway.com>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2003 6:03 AM

Subject: Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller

> Nick -

> Is that higher price because of environmental concerns?

> 73 de Lee

> KM4YY/8

>
>
> SNI P-----
> > All yours for the low, low price of \$0.00, or four easy payments of
\$0.00
> > per month. Slightly higher in California and West coast. Void where
> > prohibited.
> >
> > 72--Nick, WA5BDU
> >
> >
> >
>
>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 14:39:45 -0400
From: "Charles W3KC" <w3kc@starpower.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [158550] Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller
Message-ID: <001001c38782\$3913c100\$16052c42@w3kc>

> No Lee, it's because of energy prices being so high out here making it cost
> more to download ;-)

Nonsense, downloading uses gravity. Uploading is what costs more.
72 de Chas W3KC

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 14:32:33 -0400
From: "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158551] Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <3F799401.25764.4B984CE@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

> The FT-817 with a cw filter and the AGC turned off and the audio
> turned up high and you driving the rf gain control is a really good
> receiver.

Of course, with a REALLY good receiver, you don't have to turn the AGC off and ride the RF gain control. I will admit I still do that, though...when I am using my NC-101X, HQ-129 or S40B.

John W2AGN

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 13:45:47 -0500
From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
To: <fpqrp-l@mpna.com>, qrp-l@lehigh.edu, QRPp-I@yahoogroups.com,
vhf@w6yx.stanford.edu
Subject: [158552] WTB -- FT-817
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20030930134547.00832d70@mail.9plus.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Looking for a plain vanilla basic unit with no extra accessories.

For a disabled ham who is bedridden. His name is Oren, call is KC5LAI.

Has only enough room next to his bed for a really small rig. If you have one you'd like to part with, let me know. Off the list would be good.

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
QRP-ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, QRPp-I #115, ARS #1280, SOC #57
Zombie #759, COG #11, 6 Club #201, FP #601 oo <http://www.netxqrp.org>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 14:55:42 -0400
From: "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>
To: <w5xe@juno.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158553] Re: FISTS Question
Message-ID: <001101c38784\$c8cb37e0\$b76c7bd8@muskoka.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

i dont like the name 'Fists"
Goes good with 'heavy handed' and
QRO. Not a big deal , just my impression after a few on air contacts.

Armin VE3TEQ

----- Original Message -----

From: "William R Colbert" <w5xe@juno.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2003 11:51 AM
Subject: Re: FISTS Question

> Don't know if this counts but I used to be
> until they (the management) decided to put
> their calling/working frequencies right up on
> the qrp calling/working freqs on all bands
> except 40 meters. And the FISTS I have
> run into tend not to acknowledge qrp
> operations at all. I consider them a
> nothing organization.
>
> Ray
> "Politicians are like nappies. Both should be
> changed regularly -- and for the same reason"
> "Scotsman - Scotsman's Diary 12/97"
> Ray Colbert, W5XE, 00TC#3618, SOWP#1064M SOC#78
> fp #111 ARCI-5784 NCT2R El Paso, (FAR WEST) TEXAS
>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 21:01:27 +0200
From: "Deni" <deni1@tiscali.fr>
To: <jsielke@pobox.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158554] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <002201c38785\$42aba090\$c48a24d5@homeygjg4hzkb1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Of course, with a REALLY good receiver, you don't have to turn the AGC off
> and ride the RF gain control. I will admit I still do that, though...when
I
> am using my NC-101X, HQ-129 or S40B.
>
> John W2AGN

What exactly are the benefits of turning off the AGC and riding the RF gain control? assuming a good receiver. I know some people do this even with the K2.

73, Deni
GM3SKN

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 10:01:23 -0700 (PDT)
From: Garie Halstead K8KFJ <khyberpass65@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power radio discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158555] Re: SS Practice Audio for QRPers
Message-ID: <20030930170123.29398.qmail@web60305.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

--- Chuck Adams <k7qo@commspeed.net> wrote:

> I am looking for a contest location in NWT this year. Haven't heard
> back from
> the Pres of the Whitehorse club.

You'd certainly be rare Chuck, that's for sure. Lotsa nice pileups through most of SS. Hate to think what your QSO/rate would be. HI
I also think the propagation from that location would be very interesting.

I can't remember logging that Section as of late since the VY1JA days who was always there for us. Wonder what ever happened to him? Maybe he moved...dunno.

Good luck on securing the Northwest Territories location Chuck (fingers crossed). Try to listen hard for the weaker callers cuz one of 'em will be me. HI.

Ain't nuttin' like SS...the favorite of many CW ops.

--- I have SS cw pins from the League dating back to 1996 and

my collection is still growing. Even added SSB SS the
past couple of years. Guess I just have a "thing" for
pins. HI

72, Gary -K8KFJ-
WV SEC

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! SiteBuilder - Free, easy-to-use web site design software
<http://sitebuilder.yahoo.com>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 21:13:15 +0200
From: "Deni" <deni1@tiscali.fr>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158556] Wanted Urgently MFJ 1025/1026
Message-ID: <005201c38786\$e8c88a50\$c48a24d5@homeygjg4hzkb1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Looking to buy an MFJ 1025 or 1026.
Difficult local QRM.
I'm in Europe so please add shipping costs.

73, Deni
GM3SKN

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 15:36:50 -0400
From: "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158557] Re: Receivers was: Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <3F79A312.9246.4F461C5@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

On 30 Sep 2003 at 21:01, Deni wrote:

>
>

> > Of course, with a REALLY good receiver, you don't have to turn the
AGC off
> > and ride the RF gain control. I will admit I still do that,
though...when
> I
> > am using my NC-101X, HQ-129 or S40B.
> >
> > John W2AGN
>
> What exactly are the benefits of turning off the AGC and riding the RF
gain
> control? assuming a good receiver. I know some people do this even with
the
> K2.
> 73, Deni
> GM3SKN

Basically, it was done to avoid overloading the older receivers. It
bypasses a poor AGC system, by using a manual RF gain. It should not be
necessary with a good, modern receiver, such as the K2. The FT-817,
however, is comparatively quite mediocre in the receiver department, and this
technique does help.

John W2AGN

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 14:44:38 -0500
From: "David Baird" <wa9pds@cooketech.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158558] FISTS & QRP
Message-ID: <003601c3878b\$4c8a1eb0\$65a8d542@D105M121>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

FISTS is a fine organization populated by hams who prefer to use CW. There
are all levels of CW operators in the club from around the world -- 10 wpm
ops to high-speed ops running upwards of 50-60 wpm. Though I don't know the
numbers, there are many who are also QRP ops. I have no trouble getting QSOs
with FISTS members while running anywhere from 100 mW to 5 W. MOST are eager
to wrk QRPers whether they happen to be running QRO OR QRP at the time. Yes,
I'm a FISTS and also a member of QRP ARCI. Both groups are helpful. Both
have all levels of ops and a variety of interests in ham radio. It WOULD be
interesting to know what percentage operate QRP.

-- 72, 73

David - WA9PDS
QRP ARCI # 10261
FISTS # 6790

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 14:47:21 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: <deni1@tiscali.fr>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [158559] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <012301c3878b\$aad58630\$0401a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Deni, that line of thinking goes along with the notion that unless SWR is 1:1, the antenna won't radiate . . . it has its origins in a lack of understanding how things actually work.

I operated my HRO-5TA1 that way in 1945-46 because we had to. I have never touched the RF gain control on my Icom PRO, PRO2 or 746PRO or my IC-765. For that matter, I never touch the RF gain on my K2. And I never intend to . . .

Of course, the humorous part is that with modern receivers there seldom is any effect on the actual "r-f gain" of the receiver by manipulation of the "RF Gain" control. Only the IF stages are manually controlled. But, because of the knob label, some folks like to think that the r-f gain of the receiver is actually being changed. Curious . . .

Guess I am too new to ham radio to understand how to run these new-fangled radios. <:}

73/72, George
Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
"Starting the 58th year and it just keeps getting better!"
w5yr@att.net

----- Original Message -----

From: "Deni" <deni1@tiscali.fr>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2003 2:01 PM
Subject: Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum

> What exactly are the benefits of turning off the AGC and riding the RF
gain
> control? assuming a good receiver. I know some people do this even with
the
> K2.
> 73, Deni
> GM3SKN
>
>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 21:56:03 +0200
From: "Deni" <deni1@tiscali.fr>
To: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158560] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <008701c3878c\$e2ee38e0\$c48a24d5@homeygjg4hzkb1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Deni, that line of thinking goes along with the notion that unless SWR is
> 1:1, the antenna won't radiate . . . it has its origins in a lack of
> understanding how things actually work.
>
> I operated my HRO-5TA1 that way in 1945-46 because we had to. I have never
> touched the RF gain control on my Icom PRO, PRO2 or 746PRO or my IC-765.
For
> that matter, I never touch the RF gain on my K2. And I never intend to . .
>
> Of course, the humorous part is that with modern receivers there seldom is
> any effect on the actual "r-f gain" of the receiver by manipulation of the

> "RF Gain" control. Only the IF stages are manually controlled. But,
because
> of the knob label, some folks like to think that the r-f gain of the
> receiver is actually being changed. Curious . . .
>
> Guess I am too new to ham radio to understand how to run these new-fangled
> radios. <:}
>
> 73/72, George

Yes I seem to recall that my first surplus Rx pre SSB days
disabled AGC when you turned on the BFO and it was essential to ride the RF
gain control. It seems some CW ops still prefer to do this even with modern
receivers, just wondering why?
73, Deni

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 20:59:41 +0100
From: Chuck Adams <k7qo@commspeed.net>
To: qrp-linux-1@lists.lehigh.edu, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158561] SS Program Update
Message-ID: <5.2.1.1.0.20030930205823.01a6b960@mail.commspeed.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

I left out one important step. After you download dual and lame
files.

chmod 555 dual lame

to make it executable, else you'll get a command not found message.

dit dit

Chuck Adams K7QO k7qo@commspeed.net
<http://www.qsl.net/k7qo> CP-60

Moving to Arizona? Please bring your own water.

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 15:24:14 -0500

From: "James P. Osburn, P.E." <j.p.osburn@ieee.org>
To: "List; QRP, QRP Mailing List" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [158562] Fw: Traveling Phasors
Message-ID: <002c01c38790\$f912b8e0\$ab89cccf@bbbcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----

From: "Jim Osburn, WD9EYB" <wd9eyb@arri.net>
To: "eastside" <eastside@mailman.qth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2003 3:20 PM
Subject: Traveling Phasors

> This web page is a Java applet demonstration of traveling phasors.
> <http://lightning.qrp.com/~wd9eyb/tphasor/>
>
> There are 3 lines. The line that carries the red phasors represents
> the forward direction on the transmission line. The line that
> carries the blue phasors represents the reverse direction on
> the transmission line. The line that carries the green phasors
> represents the sum of the forward and reverse waves.
>
> When the applet starts you will see a wave start to travel down
> the forward and the sum lines. The coefficient of reflection is 1
> so all of the wave comes back on the reverse line. Note that
> as the reverse wave comes back standing waves are established
> on the sum line.
>
> I don't know what good this demo is except to show that all
> parts of a standing wave are either in phase or 180 degrees
> out of phase with all other parts of a standing wave. It also
> makes a colorful display.
>
> Source code for the applet is at
> <http://lightning.qrp.com/~wd9eyb/tphasor/Tphasor.java>
>
> Jim, WD9EYB
>
>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 13:57:27 -0600 (MDT)
From: Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>

To: Ron Polityka <wb3aal@verizon.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158563] Re: FISTS Question
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0309301354540.4678-100000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 30 Sep 2003, Ron Polityka wrote:

> Hello,
>
>
> Please e-mail me direct and not to the list too keep the traffic down.
>
> Wondering what percentage of QRP'ers are FISTS members?

I have no idea Ron. But they should change their name from whatever FISTS stands for to CWL which stands for CW Lovers. They do operate CW a lot and are often good operators.

>
> 72 and Thanks,
> Ron Polityka
> WB3AAL
> www.n3epa.org/
>
>

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 14:06:35 -0600 (MDT)
From: Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Deni <deni1@tiscali.fr>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158564] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0309301359510.4678-100000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 30 Sep 2003, Deni wrote:

>
>
> > Of course, with a REALLY good receiver, you don't have to turn the AGC off
> > and ride the RF gain control. I will admit I still do that, though...when

Which is a REALLY good receiver, so good it always has exactly
the right gain and the filters have such long skirts it doesn't matter
what the signal level is?

> I
> > am using my NC-101X, HQ-129 or S40B.
> >
> > John W2AGN
>
> What exactly are the benefits of turning off the AGC and riding the RF gain
> control? assuming a good receiver. I know some people do this even with the
> K2.

Hi Deni, people who know how a receiver works know that in
general the AGC puts too much signal+noise into the bandpass filter thus
making the bandpass much wider. So they ride the rf gain control and put
just a small signal into the filter and achieve the full effect of the
filter.

> 73, Deni
> GM3SKN
>
>
>

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 16:02:03 -0500
From: "Mike D." <hrg@cifnet.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158565] RE: FISTS Question
Message-ID: <PDEPKGHHOMNNAALDMNAMLAEIEEMAA.hrg@cifnet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> I have no idea Ron. But they should change their name from
> whatever FISTS stands for to CWL which stands for CW Lovers. They do
> operate CW a lot and are often good operators.

Your "fist" is like your signature. It is the way you send on-the-air. FISTS is not an acronym.

Quote from The Art & Skill of Radio-Telegraphy by William Pierpont, NOHFF -

"All sending with any kind of a handkey will show little personal quirks, or characteristics collectively called one's "fist," which unconsciously develop as one's skill and experience grows, no matter how precise an operator may try to be. This is why a receiving operator may immediately recognize a sender and say, "I know that fist," even before he identifies himself. Our fist may also betray our mood or state of mind; excitement, fatigue, boredom or laziness, much as our tone of voice often does."

73 de Mike, N9BOR
A-1, FISTS, JARL A-1, SMC, ZUT
<http://www.qsl.net/n9bor>

di dah dit - The only Roger Beep you'll ever need.
Let your fingers do the talking - Morse code.
My designated driver is a 12BY7A.

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 17:18:30 -0400
From: "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158566] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <3F79BAE6.10353.5517A3F@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

> Hi Deni, people who know how a receiver works know that in
> general the AGC puts too much signal+noise into the bandpass filter thus
> making the bandpass much wider. So they ride the rf gain control and put just
> a small signal into the filter and achieve the full effect of the filter.

Of course, as those same experts know, if the aforesaid receiver was properly designed, it would not put too much signal+noise (translation;OVERLOAD) into the bandpass filter. Therefore no need to "ride the rf gain control."

Compare some receivers side by side. I have an FT-817, an Argonaut V and the K2 w/DSP. I also have an FT-102, which of the QRO rigs I have, has the best receiver, just a bit better than the Omni C. Anyway, I agree with Karl, you DO need to turn down the RF gain on the FT-817 or it will overload. For the same reason, I find it necessary to sometimes use the attenuator on the Argo V. I do NOT have this problem with the K2. It is all a matter of good design.

John W2AGN

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 17:22:11 -0400
From: Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158567] Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller
Message-ID: <05e701c38798\$ed5d2870\$3b6d020a@boomer>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I knew that it had to be something like that...

----- Original Message -----
From: "Trevor Jacobs" <kg6cyn@softhome.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2003 1:40 PM
Subject: Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller

> No Lee, it's because of energy prices being so high out here making it
cost
> more to download ;-)
>
> 73's Trev KG6CYN
> <http://www.qsl.net/kg6cyn>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@direcway.com>
> To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2003 6:03 AM
> Subject: Re: NEW! IMPROVED!! AD9850 DDS controller

>
>
> > Nick -
> > Is that higher price because of environmental concerns?
> > 73 de Lee
> > KM4YY/8
> >
> >
> > SNI P-----
> > > All yours for the low, low price of \$0.00, or four easy payments of
> \$0.00
> > > per month. Slightly higher in California and West coast. Void where
> > > prohibited.
> > >
> > > 72--Nick, WA5BDU
> > >
> > >
> > >
> >
> >
>
>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 14:28:40 -0700
From: "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [158568] EMRFD and Microwave Update 2003
Message-ID: <BAY9-F39Ms2R9ZAHCdb00005d90@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Last weekend Microwave Update was at a hotel just down the road in Everett, a suburb of Seattle, and I decided to hop in the car and go see what was up. If a few microwatts on 120 GHz isn't QRP, I'm not sure what is. :-)

On Friday I was sitting eating a (somewhat disappointing) lunch provided by the hotel, and saw a fellow walk by with a copy of Experimental Methods in RF Design under his arm. I called out what a great book it was. He turned and said "Why thank you!" (or something to that effect). Then I saw his name tag: "Rick KK7B".

Laura Halliday VE7LDH "Que les nuages soient notre

Grid: CN89mg pied a terre..."
ICBM: 49 16.05 N 122 56.92 W - Hospital/Shafte

Add photos to your e-mail with MSN 8. Get 2 months FREE*.
<http://join.msn.com/?page=features/featuredemail>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 17:35:03 -0400
From: Peter Burbank <peterlee@qx.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [158569] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <5.2.0.9.0.20030930172304.00a13e10@mail.qx.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 04:06 PM 9/30/2003, Karl Larsen wrote:

>SNIP

>
>

> Hi Deni, people who know how a receiver works know that in
>general the AGC puts too much signal+noise into the bandpass filter thus
>making the bandpass much wider. So they ride the rf gain control and put
>just a small signal into the filter and achieve the full effect of the
>filter.

That seems to be the case Karl. I was just trying different settings on my
Drake 2B because it has
pretty decent AGC and an RF gain control plus you can switch from product
to diode detector. With
the diode detector and a good cw signal, pumping of the noise floor was
intolerable unless you
rode the RF gain.
Pete NV4V

> > 73, Deni

> > GM3SKN

> >

> >

> >

>

>--

>
> - Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 17:10:13 -0500
From: w9ya <w9ya@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158570] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <200309301710.13333.w9ya@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

On Tuesday 30 September 2003 02:36 pm, John Sielke wrote:

> On 30 Sep 2003 at 21:01, Deni wrote:
> > > Of course, with a REALLY good receiver, you don't have to turn the
>
> AGC off
>
> > > and ride the RF gain control. I will admit I still do that,
>
> though...when
>
> > I
> >
> > > am using my NC-101X, HQ-129 or S40B.
> > >
> > > John W2AGN
> >
> > What exactly are the benefits of turning off the AGC and riding the RF
>
> gain
>
> > control? assuming a good receiver. I know some people do this even with
>
> the
>
> > K2.
> > 73, Deni
> > GM3SKN
>
> Basically, it was done to avoid overloading the older receivers. It

> bypasses a poor AGC system, by using a manual RF gain. It should not be
> necessary with a good, modern receiver, such as the K2. The FT-817,
> however, is comparatively quite mediocre in the receiver department, and
> this technique does help.
>
>
> John W2AGN

AMEN brother.

We ran an FT-817 alongside a K2 during field day from the Midwest and there was a line of storms between us and the east coast. The 817 was essentially unusable, with or without the noise blanker. The K2 was quite the opposite. In fact it was often that a sig was almost full "quieting" (sorry to use an fm term in a cw discussion, but you guys *know* what I mean) when the signal didn't seem to exist on the 817 using the same antenna system.

The owner of the 817 couldn't wait to sell it !

72;

Bob
w9ya

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 16:00:36 -0600
From: "Niels Kristjansson" <nkristja@telus.net>
To: "QRP-L" <QRP-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158571] Fw: FISTS & QRP
Message-ID: <001001c3879e\$4729a540\$c089ad8e@ab.hsia.telus.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi gang,

I am sure FISTS is a fine organization, although most of my operating is CW I tend to stay away from them because when they find out that I don't have a FISTS number many of them have sent me an invitation to join. I must have had about five or six membership forms and sample issues of their magazine. I already belong to way to many organizations and clubs. If I tell them I have no interest in joining quite often the QSO seems to taper off. My hat is off to FISTS for their efforts but they need to realize that not every one is going to join their ranks.

73 de Niels
VA6NJ

> FISTS is a fine organization populated by hams who prefer to use CW. There
> are all levels of CW operators in the club from around the world -- 10 wpm
> ops to high-speed ops running upwards of 50-60 wpm. Though I don't know
the
> numbers, there are many who are also QRP ops. I have no trouble getting
QSOs
> with FISTS members while running anywhere from 100 mW to 5 W. MOST are
eager
> to wrk QRPers whether they happen to be running QRO OR QRP at the time.
Yes,
> I'm a FISTS and also a member of QRP ARCI. Both groups are helpful. Both
> have all levels of ops and a variety of interests in ham radio. It WOULD
be
> interesting to know what percentage operate QRP.
>
> -- 72, 73
>
> David - WA9PDS
> QRP ARCI # 10261
> FISTS # 6790
>
>

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 15:27:55 -0700
From: "Lyle Johnson" <wa7gxd@fidalgo.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [158572] RE: EMRFD and Microwave Update 2003
Message-ID: <NEBBKGGNGLGOHDJKFAPHCEHBFAAA.wa7gxd@fidalgo.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> On Friday I was sitting eating a (somewhat disappointing)
> lunch provided by the hotel, and saw a fellow walk by
> with a copy of Experimental Methods in RF Design under
> his arm. I called out what a great book it was. He turned
> and said "Why thank you!" (or something to that effect).
> Then I saw his name tag: "Rick KK7B".

Wes Hayward, W7ZOI, and Bob Larkin, W7PUA, were also there. It was great

meeting and talking to all three authors of EMRFD.

Lyle, KK7P

Date: Tue, 30 Sep 2003 17:31:30 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: <jsielke@pobox.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [158573] Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum
Message-ID: <01a501c387a2\$98cf73d0\$0401a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks, let's talk technical for a few minutes . . .

A filter - whether made from inductors and capacitors or crystals or mechanical discs or the like - is a passive, linear device. As such, its properties are almost completely independent of the signal levels which are presented to its input terminals. Why "almost?"

Well, if you apply a 100-volt signal to the input of a crystal filter, you will let the smoke out of things. But we are not talking about that kind of "loud signal." We encounter signals at the tens of millivolts level (usually) with filters in our receivers. Sometimes a little more but hardly enough to shatter crystals or even alter their properties enough to cause them to become non-linear in their operation.

So, in the real world, the performance of the filters used in our receivers is in fact truly independent of the signal level applied to their input terminals.

Now, what does this mean? Simply that the bandpass (frequency and phase response) properties of a filter are determined by the source impedance feeding it, the filter design, and its termination. That is all.

Filters 101 in any textbook. How the filter behaves is determined by those factors and NOT by the level of the signal+noise being applied to it.

Thus, a strong signal is passed by the filter in exactly the same way that a weak one is. If the signal level causes anything about the filter operation to change, then something is very badly wrong and that filter (?) has no place in your radio.

So, bottom line is that to intentionally reduce the signal level in a receiver to prevent the filters from be "overdriven" or to somehow either use or not use all of the passband or to encounter the sides of the passband with one signal level but not another - all these notions just don't hold water.

I am sorry if this disagrees with what some have posted here, but facts are facts.

What happens in a receiver with excessive signal strength is that active DEVICES such as transistors, FETs, or even vacuum tubes are overloaded and thereby create distortion and unwanted frequency products. They do so because they are driven out of their linear range of operation. Filters are passive devices that are not subject to that effect.

As I posted earlier I have never used a reduced "RF Gain" control setting on any modern receiver and have yet to find the need for doing so. But, that does not mean that it cannot be done and for some people, doing so might be effective and desirable. But, if it is done to avoid "overloading the filters" then you need to look elsewhere for a justification.

Modern receivers are complex devices and it is sometimes difficult to associate the response of the receiver to certain control inputs, and thus we can be led to draw improper conclusions as to what those control inputs are actually doing.

73/72, George

Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas

Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE

"Starting the 58th year and it just keeps getting better!"

w5yr@att.net

----- Original Message -----

From: "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2003 4:18 PM

Subject: Re: Receivers was:Radio during a sunspot minimum

>

> > Hi Deni, people who know how a receiver works know that in

> > general the AGC puts too much signal+noise into the bandpass filter thus

> > making the bandpass much wider. So they ride the rf gain control and put

just
> > a small signal into the filter and achieve the full effect of the
filter.
>
>
>
> Of course, as those same experts know, if the aforesaid receiver was
properly
> designed, it would not put too much signal+noise (translation;OVERLOAD)
into
> the bandpass filter. Therefore no need to "ride the rf gain control."
>
> Compare some receivers side by side. I have an FT-817, an Argonaut V and
the
> K2 w/DSP. I also have an FT-102, which of the QRO rigs I have, has the
best
> receiver, just a bit better than the Omni C. Anyway, I agree with Karl,
you
> DO need to turn down the RF gain on the FT-817 or it will overload. For
the
> same reason, I find it necessary to sometimes use the attenuator on the
Argo
> V. I do NOT have this problem with the K2. It is all a matter of good
design.
>
> John W2AGN

End of QRP-L Digest 3059

